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COUNTY EXECUTIVE CRAIG SCHOOL CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDING PRIORITIES

(Bel Air, MD - April 29, 2008) - - County Executive David R. Craig has announced the proposed funding priorities in Capital Projects for the Board of Education and Harford County Public Schools in FY 09. The county executive made his announcement following a tour of the new

Bel Air High School which is currently under construction.

"Funding for Capital Projects for the Harford County Public Schools is one of my Administration's top priorities," County Executive Craig stated. "In FY 09, I have recommended **\$121.9 million** in county funding for 24 school projects," the county executive stated.

The proposed FY 09 Capital Budget for the school system is the largest in the history of the county. The Capital Budget includes construction or renovation funding for Bel Air and Edgewood High Schools; Joppatowne and Deerfield Elementary Schools and construction of two new elementary schools at Vale Road and Shucks Road. The two new elementary schools are being forward funded by Harford County in an effort to reduce overcrowding conditions at several elementary schools near the county seat of Bel Air.

"The proposed FY 09 Capital Budget is an ambitious budget, but I believe accurately reflects our vision of enhancing the educational facilities throughout Harford County to better serve our students and citizens for years to come," County Executive Craig remarked.

Other highlights of the FY 09 Capital Budget include:

- * An addition to Aberdeen High School **\$2,218,055**
- * Deerfield Elementary School Modernization **15,385,772**
- * Joppatowne Elementary School Modernization **9,534,309**
- * Vale Road Elementary School **10,035,923**
- * Schucks Road Elementary School **2,600,000**

- * Funding for repairs of aging schools **400,000**
- * Athletic field repairs/renovations **45,000**
- * Bel Air High School replacement **33,563,210**
- * Edgewood High School replacement **38,963,926**
- * Harford Technical High School field **1,700,000**
- * Roof replacement at Fallston High School **1,464,000**
- * HVAC for Jarrettsville Elementary School **300,000**
- * Funding to support additional security cameras **200,000**

The total proposed FY 09 Capital Budget appropriations is **\$279,813,330**. The amount recommended for the Board of Education and Harford County Public Schools is 44% of the total appropriations.